

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A seat belt device comprising a seat belt for restraining and protecting an occupant sitting on a vehicle seat, and an end portion of the seat belt includes a lap anchor,

wherein the seat belt is connected to a vehicle seat body on a side of the vehicle seat via the lap anchor, and a seat weight sensor installed below the vehicle seat measures a seat load applied to said vehicle seat,

wherein the seat weight sensor includes a mounting bracket extending away from a load sensing portion of the seat weight sensor;

wherein a hitch member is attached to the mounting bracket so that the hitch member is fixed relative to the seat weight sensor; and ~~either one of said vehicle seat fixed to the vehicle body or said seat weight sensor fixed to the vehicle body, the hitch member being immovable; and~~

wherein said lap anchor is connected to the hitch member.

Claims 2-9: CANCELLED

10. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the hitch member comprises a slide bar extending rearwardly from the vehicle seat; the slide bar and the mounting bracket each having holes for receiving a connecting fastener and wherein one of the slide bar and the mounting bracket includes an elongated hole to facilitate the alignment and connection of the slide bar to the mounting bracket.

11. (New) A seat belt system comprising:

a seat belt for restraining and protecting an occupant sitting on a vehicle seat, the seat belt including a lap anchor at one end of the seat belt,

wherein a seat weight sensor for sensing a load applied to the vehicle seat is installed below the vehicle seat, the seat weight sensor including a mounting bracket extending away from a load sensing portion of the seat weight sensor;

wherein a slide bar is attached to the mounting bracket so that the slide bar is fixed relative to the seat weight sensor, wherein one of the slide bar and the mounting bracket includes an elongated hole that facilitates the alignment and connection of the slide bar to the mounting bracket;

wherein the lap anchor is slidably connected to the slide bar.

12. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein a first end of the slide bar is attached to the mounting bracket and a second end of the slide bar is fixed to a vehicle floor.

13. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein the mounting bracket has side walls and a supporting collar is located between the side walls.

14. (New) The system of claim 13, further comprising a second collar located between one of the side walls and the slide bar.